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In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Paul J. Datta et al. Docket No.: 15,075
Serial No.: 10/017,894 Group No.: 3762
Confirmation No.: 9031 Examiner: Unknown
Filed: December 14, 2001 Date: March 21, 2002



A PRE-FASTENED ABSORBENT ARTICLE HAVING SIMPLIFIED FASTENING FEATURES

Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date

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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached modified PTO Form 1449 and the copies of those documents presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

Applicants also wish to bring the following commonly-assigned pending patent applications to the attention of the Examiner:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/527,776 filed March 17, 2000, by
P. Vangompel et al. for "A Pre-Fastened Adjustable Mechanical Fastener Garment."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/563,417 filed May 2, 2000, by T. Roessler et al.
for "Absorbent Article Having an Extensible Outer Cover and an Extensible Bodyside LIner."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/705,512 filed November 3, 2000, by T. Martin et al.
for "Hook and Loop Fastener Having an Increased Coefficient of Friction."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/793,057 filed February 26, 2001, by H. Tremblay et al.
for "Skin-Friendly Hook Fastening Component."

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Noted
11-10-03

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: 920-721-2433.

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL J. DATTA ET AL.

By: Alyssa A. Dudkowski

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Registration No.: 40,596



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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date
2 Page(s) of PTO Form 1449
28 Document(s)

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is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

on: March 21, 2002

Nanette A. Dotts

(Type or print name of person mailing paper)

Nanette A. Dotts
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(Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a) [8-21])